

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

Grantee: Caring Pregnancy Center (dba Options Pregnancy Center)

Goal: To provide necessary services and referrals to pregnant and parenting women in south-central MN

For the period: January 1 – March 31, 2015

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Provide guidance to grant staff; complete grant forms; attend required grant meetings; hire and coordinate on-going training of grant staff		Reviewing training materials and opportunities for Client Advocates. Reviewed client advocate job description, interviewed applicants, and filled vacant client advocate position	
Outreach	Provide medically accurate website; advertise in local venues; distribute posters and brochures; advertise on local buses		Continuing to distribute posters and brochures to area referring agencies. Participated in 2 county wide networking meetings to expand referral sources.	
Case Management Services	Provide on-going telephone and/or office appointments for clients testing positive for pregnancy	18	Client Advocate provides ongoing office visits with clients during pregnancy and after. Phone calls are made when client is unable to come for an office visit.	50
Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education	Enroll clients in Sleep Safely Program; provide information and education on safe sleep, pregnancy, infant care, and parenting; provide crib; deliver and assemble crib if needed	36	Program continues to be well received by clients. Some referrals from other agencies, most referrals from past participants. Program has strong community support.	43
Employment Assistance	Enroll participants in Work Readiness Project; conduct assessment of work readiness skills; provide work station and mentoring; provide evaluation, incentive and references	32	Participation in the program has remained steady. Two clients found full time employment, one on maternity leave.	41

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Life-Skills Education Program	Provide life-skills educational components for program participants as needs are identified	16	Project staff, Client Advocate, and mentors have provided participants with information on budgeting, time management, job applications, housing, relationships and parenting.	21
Material Support	Provide material assistance and basic housekeeping needs to pregnant and parenting women	16	We continue to provide diapers on an emergency basis. The early season change resulted in increased requests for clothing.	31
Mental Health	Provide individual substance abuse education; provide referrals for ongoing alcohol/ drug counseling; provide relationship counseling	5	Client Advocate has completed additional education in relationship counseling. We continue to see an increase in clients in treatment programs or the legal system due to drug abuse. Meth use has had a dramatic increase in the area.	17
Nutrition	Provide infant formula and baby food; provide nutrition education; provide WIC and food shelf referrals	5	The need for baby food has decreased, but the requests for formula have increased. Especially requests for specialty formulas.	8
Parenting Education	Provide parenting education with incentives	30	Client Advocate provides parenting education on an ongoing basis up to one year after birth if client requests. New parenting educational materials have been purchased.	40
Pregnancy Education	Provide pregnancy education with incentives	36	Pregnancy education is a large part of our crib program. A number of clients delivered babies while part of the crib program – at that time the focus changed from pregnancy education to parenting education.	23
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services	2	Intake assessments are completed with all new clients. Most return for additional services.	3

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Transportation	Provide gas cards or bus tokens for clients to attend Center or medical appointments	3	Bus tokens and gas cards have been beneficial in helping clients keep their appointments. As gas prices decreased we have not had as many requests for gas cards.	4

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	4
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	4
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	9
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	3
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	4

Challenges:

Comments: